

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Andrej BUGRIM et al.

Application No.: 10/518,103

Filed: (Int'l) June 18, 2003

For: METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING
COMPOUNDS FOR TREATING DISEASE
STATES

Confirmation No.: 5310

Art Unit: 1631

Examiner: K. Skowronek

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This Preliminary Amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) for the above-referenced application. A final Office Action was mailed on August 20, 2008 ("the OA"), for which a response was due on November 20, 2008. Filed herewith is a Petition and fee for a two months extension of time, thereby extending the due date for response to January 21, 2009 (January 20, 2009 is Inauguration Day, a federal holiday). Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.